

PRESIDENT'S PROPOSED BUDGET REQUEST

Committee on Finance: Committee concluded a hearing to examine the President's proposed budget request for fiscal year 2015, after receiving testimony from Jacob J. Lew, Secretary of the Treasury.

NOMINATIONS

Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs: Committee concluded a hearing to examine the nominations of L. Reginald Brothers, Jr., of Massachusetts, to be Under Secretary for Science and Technology, and Francis Xavier Taylor, of Maryland, to be Under Secretary for Intelligence and Analysis, both of the Department of Homeland Security, after the nominees testified and answered questions in their own behalf.

BUSINESS MEETING

Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship: Committee ordered favorably reported the nomination of Maria Contreras-Sweet, of California, to be Administrator of the Small Business Administration.

INCOME SECURITY AND THE ELDERLY

Special Committee on Aging: Committee concluded a hearing to examine income security and the elderly, focusing on securing gains made in the war on poverty, and if trends in marriage, work, and pensions may increase vulnerability for some retirees, after receiving testimony from Barbara D. Bovbjerg, Managing Director, Education, Workforce, and Income Security, Government Accountability Office; Patricia Neuman, The Henry J. Kaiser Family Foundation, and Joan Entmacher, National Women's Law Center, both of Washington, D.C.; and Dixie Shaw, Catholic Charities Maine, Caribou.

House of Representatives

Chamber Action

Public Bills and Resolutions Introduced: 8 public bills, H.R. 4148–4155; and 4 resolutions, H.J. Res. 112; H. Con. Res. 89; and H. Res. 499–500, were introduced. **Pages H2198–99**

Additional Cosponsors: **Page H2199**

Report Filed: A report was filed today as follows:

H. Res. 501, providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 2824) to amend the Surface Mining Control and Reclamation Act of 1977 to stop the ongoing waste by the Department of the Interior of taxpayer resources and implement the final rule on excess spoil, mining waste, and buffers for perennial and intermittent streams, and for other purposes; providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 2641) to provide for improved coordination of agency actions in the preparation and adoption of environmental documents for permitting determinations, and for other purposes; and providing for consideration of motions to suspend the rules (H. Rept. 113–374). **Page H2198**

Speaker: Read a letter from the Speaker wherein he appointed Representative Fleischmann to act as Speaker pro tempore for today. **Page H2151**

Recess: The House recessed at 10:52 a.m. and reconvened at 12 noon. **Page H2156**

Suspensions—Proceedings Resumed: The House agreed to suspend the rules and pass the following measures which were debated yesterday, March 4th:

United States-Israel Strategic Partnership Act: H.R. 938, amended, to strengthen the strategic alliance between the United States and Israel, by a $\frac{2}{3}$ yeas-and-nays vote of 410 yeas to 1 nay, Roll No. 95 and **Pages H2167–68**

Better Buildings Act: H.R. 2126, amended, to facilitate better alignment, cooperation, and best practices between commercial real estate landlords and tenants regarding energy efficiency in buildings, by a $\frac{2}{3}$ yeas-and-nays vote of 375 yeas to 36 nays, Roll No. 98. **Pages H2177–78**

Agreed to amend the title so as to read: "To promote energy efficiency, and for other purposes." **Page H2178**

Suspending the Individual Mandate Penalty Law Equals Fairness Act: The House passed H.R. 4118, to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to delay the implementation of the penalty for failure to comply with the individual health insurance mandate, by a yeas-and-nays vote of 250 yeas to 160 nays, Roll No. 97. **Pages H2168–77**

Rejected the Horsford motion to recommit the bill to the Committee on Ways and Means with instructions to report the same back to the House forthwith with an amendment, by a yeas-and-nays vote of 185 yeas to 227 nays, Roll No. 96. **Pages H2175–76**

H. Res. 497, the rule providing for consideration of the bills (H.R. 3826) and (H.R. 4118), was agreed to by a recorded vote of 228 ayes to 182 noes, Roll No. 94, after the previous question was ordered by a yea-and-nay vote of 221 yeas to 184 nays, Roll No. 93.

Pages H2160–67

Electricity Security and Affordability Act: The House began consideration of H.R. 3826, to provide direction to the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency regarding the establishment of standards for emissions of any greenhouse gas from fossil fuel-fired electric utility generating units. Consideration of the measure is expected to resume tomorrow, March 6th.

Pages H2178–92, H2192–95

Pursuant to the rule, an amendment in the nature of a substitute consisting of the text of Rules Committee Print 113–40 shall be considered as an original bill for the purpose of amendment under the five-minute rule.

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Agreed to:

Capito amendment (No. 3 printed in H. Rept. 113–373) that clarifies that the bill does not preclude a performance standard that is based on a technology developed in a foreign country, as long as that technology has been demonstrated to be achievable at a power plant in the United States;

Pages H2189–90

McKinley amendment (No. 4 printed in H. Rept. 113–373) that requires the EPA when submitting their report to Congress to consult with the Energy Information Administration; Comptroller General; National Energy Technology Laboratory; and the National Institute for Standards and Technology;

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McKinley amendment (No. 5 printed in H. Rept. 113–373) that states when reporting to the Congress, the amendment will, additionally, require the EPA to look at the economic impact of such rule or guidelines, including the potential effects on: require capital investments and projected costs for operation and maintenance of new equipment required to be installed; and the global competitiveness of the United States; and

Pages H2190–91

Latta amendment (No. 7 printed in H. Rept. 113–373) that clarifies that the definition of “demonstration project” refers to projects that are receiving federal government funding or financial assistance.

Pages H2193–94

Proceedings Postponed:

Smith (TX) amendment (No. 1 printed in H. Rept. 113–373) that seeks to require the Administrator to apply the specific criteria, under the bill, for setting a standard based on the best system of emission reduction for new sources within the coal

category, when setting a standard for any fossil fuel category;

Pages H2186–88

Capps amendment (No. 2 printed in H. Rept. 113–373) that seeks to allow the EPA to consider all pollution control technologies being used in the United States or elsewhere when setting new power plant emission standards;

Pages H2188–89

Schakowsky amendment (No. 6 printed in H. Rept. 113–373) that seeks to accept the scientific finding of the EPA that greenhouse gas pollution is “contributing to long-lasting changes in our climate that can have a range of negative effects”; and

Pages H2191–92

Waxman amendment (No. 8 printed in H. Rept. 113–373) that seeks to provide that the bill takes effect when the Administrator of the EIA certifies that another Federal program, other than one under section 111 of the Clean Air Act, will reduce carbon pollution in at least equivalent quantities, with similar timing and from the same sources as the reductions required under the rules and guidelines nullified by section 4.

Pages H2194–95

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Pages H2160–67

Meeting Hour: Agreed that when the House adjourns today, it adjourn to meet at 9 a.m. tomorrow, March 6th.

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Quorum Calls—Votes: Five yea-and-nay votes and one recorded vote developed during the proceedings of today and appear on pages H2166, H2166–67, H2167–68, H2176, H2176–77, and H2177–78. There were no quorum calls.

Adjournment: The House met at 10 a.m. and adjourned at 6:41 p.m.

Committee Meetings

APPROPRIATIONS—DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE FY 2015 BUDGET

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies held a hearing on Department of Agriculture FY 2015 Budget. Testimony was heard from Phyllis Fong, Inspector General, Department of Agriculture; Karen Ellis, Assistant Inspector General for Investigations, Department of Agriculture; Gil Harden, Assistant Inspector General for Audit, Department of Agriculture.